



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER AND FORT LEONARD WOOD
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATZT-S

20 APR 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Commanding General's Memorial Day Holiday Safety Message

1. Memorial Day commemorates the remembrance of America's fallen service members. The meaning of this holiday is intensified by our current combat and peacekeeping operations in the war against terrorism.

2. Leaders and supervisors at all echelons should prepare Soldiers, civilian employees, and family members to deal with additional risks over Memorial Day weekend. Caution must be given to Soldiers and civilian employees to ensure an accident free holiday, to emphasize the need for increased awareness of hazards, and to reinforce risk management.

3. Memorial Day weekend historically starts the summer season. During the 101 days of summer, Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, Soldiers, civilians, and family members are exposed to increased risk. Outwardly harmless summer activities can turn fatal without proper planning and caution.

4. Check to ensure that every countermeasure is taken to safeguard our Soldiers, civilians, and families. Make awareness a key ingredient in your accident prevention toolbox. Ensure all personnel receive a pre-holiday briefing on these critical points:

Vehicle Safety - use of safety belts and preparing your vehicle in anticipation of the warm weather conditions is a must. Allow additional following distance in fog or rain and increase the 3-second separation between vehicles.

Responsible Driving - talk with subordinates about travel plans and encourage the use of leave for long distances or the use of alternate transportation modes. Discuss the hazards of drinking and driving, proper trip planning to avoid fatigue and inattentiveness, and allowing sufficient time to reach destinations. Advise subordinates to consider increased traffic, weather conditions, and to plan frequent breaks to fight fatigue.

Emergency Contact Numbers and Ride Home Information - ensure all personnel are aware of unit and community programs.

Recreation Activities - be prepared for outdoor recreation activities. Keep in mind authorized swimming areas, water safety procedures, and hot weather injuries.

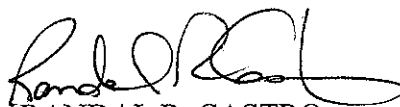
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Motorcycle Safety - This is the time of year that more motorcyclists are on the road and we need to be on the "lookout." Motorcyclists are not easily seen due to their smaller vehicle profile. So be on your guard as a driver and expect the unexpected.

5. Memorial Day weekend is a significant risk period. I charge leaders to instill a sense of preparedness in our personnel, not only during this weekend, but throughout the summer. Success can only be defined as "No Loss of Life."

6. I wish each of you a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend.



RANDAL R. CASTRO
Major General, USA
Commanding

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All Brigades, Battalions, Companies,
Detachments, Tenant Units, Directorates,
and Personal Staff Offices